



AWFUL CRIMES UNEARTHED

Life Insurance Swindlers Commit Two Murders.

OPERATE IN MEXICO

Three Victims Lured There and Poisoned After Being Insured.

CRIMES DISCOVERED LATER

Two Swindler-Murderers Apprehended in Texas and Third Is Induced to Visit United States Where He Is Arrested—All Sentenced to Death.

New York, Nov. 23.—Details of the crime for which W. C. Richardson, C. H. Harle, and William Mason, Americans, have been sentenced to be shot at Chihuahua, Mexico, were furnished last night by Attorney Harry H. Boltome, of this city. The infliction of the death penalty marks the end of an extraordinary conspiracy to cheat the New York Life Insurance Company. Mr. Boltome was solicitor general for that company when the murders involved were committed, in 1902. The details of the crime and the great detective story that followed have never been printed before.

The three criminals fought extradition and appealed through the Mexican courts for three years. Hurlburt was a Rochester lawyer who ran away to Mexico with seven indictments over his head for running a "divorce mill." Mitchell, alias Mason, was another Rochester lawyer, who followed him later. With the help of Dr. Harle, of Chihuahua, they poisoned with strychnine two other Americans, whom they caused to be insured in the New York Life and collected \$225,000 on the policies. These two Americans were Harry Mitchell, brother of Mrs. Hurlburt and James Devers, a broken down mining man, Hurlburt, calling himself C. T. Richardson, was the company's agent at Chihuahua. After the murders, the gang, except Harle, moved to Texas.

Detectives on the Trail.

Suspicion was aroused, and a detective named Gray was sent to Texas. He posed as a lumber merchant and was supplied with lumber orders from New York to keep up the game. One day Hurlburt spoke to Gray's little girl. The men met, got intimates and Hurlburt brouched a scheme to cheat the insurance company out of \$50,000. He said that he had had experience. Detective Gray proposed that they insure Gray's

BAGGAGE CHECK SWINDLERS OPERATE.

Chicago, Nov. 23.—Chicago & Alton and several Western roads are suffering from the operations of baggage check swindlers. The game is a new one. Most of the railroads have discarded the old time brass checks and now use a card on which is written the destination, route, and other particulars. These cards are easy to imitate, and when the sharpener notes the wording and number of a check upon a piece of baggage that has just arrived it is the work of but a few minutes to prepare a duplicate and present it to the baggage man. In many cases the baggage has been delivered several hours before the real owner called for it, thus giving ample time to get away.

MANY INDICTMENTS AGAINST ILLINOIS BANKER.

Peoria, Nov. 23.—Ten additional indictments charging embezzlement, were returned by the November Grand Jury yesterday, against Newton Dougherty, former superintendent and banker. Judge Worthington fixed the total bail at \$10,000, which the prisoner has been unable to furnish.

brother-in-law for \$50,000 as a beginning.

A broken down detective called John H. Evans, was imported by Gray as his brother-in-law. He was dying of consumption and Brights disease. William Mitchell posed as Evans and two reputable physicians examined him and pronounced him good risk. He was known as Meredith when he was the "Evans."

The whole crowd, including Gray, was arrested on November 1. Dr. Harle, who was still in Chihuahua and was induced to come to the United States and was arrested. He was put through the third degree and made a confession about his connection with the two Chihuahua claims. The proceedings against Mitchell and Hurlburt on the Dallas plot was dropped. All three were extradited to Mexico for murder. This was in June, 1903.

(Continued on page 8.)

MANNING ON STAND

Depew's "Cantankerous Friend" Talks on Life Insurance.

RECEIVED PAY FROM NICHOLS

His Salary Was \$450 Per Annum, But When New York Life Dropped Out, It Was Reduced to \$300—Worked in Interest of Companies, Not Officials

New York, Nov. 23.—Late this afternoon William S. Manning, referred to as Senator Depew's "cantankerous friend up the river" was examined by the Armstrong Investigating Committee. Manning was the most interesting witness of the day.

He detailed his work for the various companies, testifying he was paid \$450 a year by John A. Nichols, to protect the life insurance interests, always in the interest of business, but not interests of the officers. After several years this amount was reduced to \$300.

He did not know where Nichols got the money. He denied he ever received money from the Equitable. When the fee was reduced, however, he understood it was due to the fact that the New York Life, which with the Equitable and the Mutual, each paid \$150, had drawn out.

An interesting part of his testimony concerned the state insurance investigation of 1877. Manning said he found reports of the proceeding, "garbled and untrue." He obtained a corrected report from the official stenographer and had a volume printed, which he sold to the companies. He charged them \$50 a copy. He denied that he ever arranged with the companies to stop the publication of the book.

JAPANESE ENGINEERS PREPARE TO REPAIR EASTERN RAILWAY.

Victoria, B. C., Nov. 23.—Japanese engineers estimate that eighteen months will be required to repair the Chinese Eastern railway in Manchuria. The Russians did all possible to destroy its value and carried away most of the apparatus. The line will be virtually relaid. Since the return to Pekin of M. Pokotiloff there has been considerable intrigue with the object of handing Japan's possession of the railway.

THOUSANDS ARE STOLEN BY ASSAY CLERK

CASHIER OF SEATTLE OFFICE IS UNDER ARREST

Shadowed By Secret Service Man, He is Caught With a Portion of the Plunder on His Person and Makes Full Confession,

TAKES GOLD FROM PLACER DUST REPLACING IT WITH SAND

After Operating Successfully for Several Months, During Which Time He Stole Gold Dust to the Value of Thirty Thousand Dollars from Minerals in His Possession, George Edward Adams, Cashier of Government Assay Office at Seattle, and Prominent in Society, Is Found Out and Admits Crime.

Seattle, Nov. 23.—George Edwards Adams, seven years cashier of the United States assay office in this city, and one of the best known young men in Seattle, is under arrest accused of the theft of \$35,000 in gold dust, to which he had access in an official capacity.

Of this sum \$12,000 was taken off Adams by a secret service agent, who claims that Adams made practically a complete confession, stating he had abstracted more than \$30,000 from the miners since June last, and substituted black sand, to represent deficiency in weight.

Shrinkage Was Too Large.

Adams was taken before the United States commissioner this afternoon and held in \$30,000 bonds, to appear for preliminary examination Friday. Secret Service Agent Connel, on the witness stand, testified the shortage would exceed \$35,000.

Connel in his substitute said Adams' method was to take black sand, which exists in nearly all the deposits of placer gold, for the dust turned into the assay office to be weighed and melted.

After the gold was melted, the weight represented by the sand would be charged to shrinkage, thus protecting Adams from detection. The shrinkage became so large, however, the department's attention was attracted and the inquiries resulted in Adams' arrest.

Delivers Over When Accused.

Connel states that when he accused Adams, he delivered over \$12,000 in currency, concealed in a belt on his person. He admitted selling dust to a local bank. Connel says Adams told him that all had been extracted since June 1, last.

The only statement Adams had to make was: "I do not care to make a detailed statement until I consult my counsel. As cashier I handled no money. I am confident I can within two or three days straighten the matter up."

Jacob Furth and M. F. Backus qualified tonight as bondsmen. Adams is a native of Massachusetts and was appointed cashier of the assay office in 1898. He drew a salary of \$1800. In 1904 he married Miss Emily Clary, of this city, and the family is very prominent in social circles.

JUDGE SAYS NEWSPAPERS SHOULD MAKE NO COMMENT

Declares People Are Interested in Suit Case Mystery and It Should Be Fairly Tried.

Boston, Mass., Nov. 23.—Judge Stevens, of the superior court who will sit at the trial of the defendants in the famous "suitcase" tragedy, yesterday summoned representatives of the local newspapers before him and gave them a statement of his views regarding newspaper holding of the case. He said:

"The case of the Commonwealth vs. Crawford and others has been assigned for trial next Monday. This case has received great publicity and great public interest has been manifested in it. It is of the utmost importance that it be tried by an absolutely impartial and unprejudiced jury.

"Hereafter newspapers should not publish any news or may any comment upon this case. They should publish no news whatever about the case until the trial, which of course, they have a perfect right to publish the proceedings."

MEDICAL OFFICERS TESTIFY THAT BRANCH DIED OF BLOWS

Positive in Their Conviction that No Treatment Could Have Saved His Life.

Annapolis, Nov. 23.—Medical officers gave as their positive opinion, at the Merrivether court-martial today, that Branch had died of the effect of blows received in the fight. It was their conviction that no treatment could have saved his life. The prosecution will almost surely close its testimony early tomorrow.

\$50,000 FIRE IN ST. PAUL.

Plant and Building of Daily Newspaper Is Destroyed.

St. Paul, Nov. 23.—Fire at the corner of Fifth and Minnesota streets, early today caused a loss of about \$50,000. The principal loss was the Volks Zeitung Printing Company, which publishes a daily German newspaper, its loss being \$30,000.

MARSHALL FIELD SPEEDS ON FAST TRAIN TO DYING SON

Chicago, Nov. 23.—A special train bearing Marshall Field from New York, to the bedside of Field's son, who accidentally shot himself yesterday, while cleaning a gun, reached Chicago at 5:30 this afternoon. The running time was forty minutes faster than the Twentieth Century Limited. The condition of

Marshall Field, Jr., is reported as being a "shade better" although it is admitted no confident prediction of the outcome can be made inside of another 24 hours. Dr. Bowen stated tonight that no perceptible change had occurred in the past 12 hours. He expects the crisis to be reached in about 18 hours.

FINED FIFTY DOLLARS FOR ROLLING CIGARETTE.

Lincoln, Neb., Nov. 23.—Milton Patrick Raymond, aged 18, was arrested yesterday while lighting a cigarette which he had just rolled for his own use in the presence of a city detective. He was fined \$50 and costs. This is the lightest penalty prescribed by the law for "manufacturing" cigarettes. The affair has created a sensation.

SENATOR PLATT DECLARES THAT ODELL MUST RETIRE.

Favors Congressman Oicott, But Believes Any Man Opposed to Former Governor Will Do.

New York, Nov. 23.—Senator Platt, in a statement on the New York county chairmanship, tonight said the party organization throughout the state had been transformed into a weak, discordant and dissatisfied body, lacking confidence in itself and distrustful of its leadership.

Platt said Odell's retirement was necessary in consequence of his loss of the "New York county machine." Platt went on to say his choice for the committee must lie between Congressman Oicott and some other man who was as much opposed to Odell and to the county organization subservient to Odell, as Oicott.

JOHN D. TO TESTIFY

Summoned in a Suit Brought Against Standard Oil.

ROGERS MUST ALSO TESTIFY

Directed to Appear Before Commissioner Appointed by Folk in Connection With Suit Brought to Prevent Them from Doing Business in Missouri.

New York, Nov. 23.—Subpoenas were issued today for John D. Rockefeller, Henry M. Flagler, Henry H. Rogers, and other financiers, to appear as witnesses in two suits pending in Missouri, to oust the Standard Oil Company, and two other oil companies, from doing business in that state.

The subpoenas direct the witnesses to appear December 4, before Frederick H. Sanborn in this city, appointed by Governor Folk to act as commissioner for the state of Missouri.

The ground of one of the actions is an alleged pool or trust, between three companies, to regulate the price paid by the retail dealers in Missouri. It was charged also, that the companies misled the public into the belief that they were three separate and distinct corporations. The second suit is very similar to the first.

HOTELS AND WAREHOUSES BURN.

Vladivostok, Nov. 23.—There are no further disturbances and order is completely restored. Warehouses have been burned and nearly all the hotels have suffered from the torch.

OVER SIX HUNDRED THOUSAND.

New York, Nov. 23.—Contributions received yesterday to the Jewish relief fund by the committee having that fund in charge amounted to \$50,371, making a grand total received to date of \$660,758.

TRANSPORT BUFORD ARRIVES.

San Francisco, Nov. 23.—The U. S. army transport Buford last night arrived from Manila, three days overdue. She encountered some very heavy weather after leaving Honolulu and it took her nine days instead of six to make the run. She had on board 78 cabin passengers, 13 in the steerage and a battalion of the Fourteenth cavalry.

DIRECT BALLOT DEMANDED

Zemstvo Congress Insists on Its Inauguration.

GOVERNMENT OBJECTS

Witte Considers It Impossible to Grant Demand and His Friends Protest.

ONLY WAY TO RESTORE ORDER

Congress Goes on Record as Favoring the Principles of the Manifesto, But Laying Down Vote as Only Means of Guaranteeing the Douma.

Moscow, Nov. 23.—By the scant majority of twenty, the Zemstvo Congress today adopted the first section of the program drafted by the executive committee, declaring the solidarity of Congress with the Principles of the Imperial Manifesto, and assuring the Government of the support of the great majority of the Zemstvo's and the municipalities in carrying into effect the liberties promised by the manifesto, but laying down as the sole means of guaranteeing the authority of the Douma and restoring order in the country, the election of representatives by general, direct, equal and secret ballot, and the formal granting of the first Douma the power of elaborate constitution of the empire.

The friends of Count Witte made a stout fight against the provision of direct ballot, one concession which the Premier considers it impossible to grant, but this provision was carried over their heads, by a two-thirds majority.

Gerard Not Finland's Choice.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 23.—Although M. Gerard is Count Witte's selection as Governor General of Finland, he is not the choice of the Finnish delegation here, who prefer Prince Sviatopolk-Mirsky. Members of the delegation, however say the new general will be entirely acceptable to the Finnish nation. He is a man of liberal views, regarded as an authority on matters of jurisprudence and it is believed he will make a good administrator.

TROOPS ARRIVING AT KIELCE.

Kielce, Nov. 23.—Troops are pouring in to re-inforce the garrison in Poland. One additional regiment arrived today and two passed Kielce, marching in the direction of Dombrova.

YOUNG WIFE VICTIM OF A SHOTGUN ACCIDENT.

Los Angeles, Nov. 23.—Mrs. Frieda Schultz, aged 17, wife of an electrician, was shot in the back of the head with a double barreled shotgun and instantly killed last evening, at her home, as the result of the careless handling of the loaded weapon by her little brother and sister. Mrs. Schultz was engaged in cleaning the house and as she was moving the articles about the children were playing with them. The shotgun was picked up by one of them and the two began a tussle for its possession. In some manner both barrels of the gun was discharged, the contents striking Mrs. Schultz in the back of the head, and she fell to the floor, dying instantly.